

# THE LUBBOCK AVALANCHE

VOLUME XXII

LUBBOCK, LUBBOCK COUNTY, TEXAS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1921

NO. 15

## PANHANDLE-SOUTH PLAINS FAIR SUCCESS

### IMPORTANT HIGHWAY MEETING HELD HERE MONDAY AFTERNOON

THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE DELEGATES ATTEND AND SELECT ROUTE FOR HIGHWAY

### ROUTE FROM CANADA TO TEXAS GULF

The Puget Sound and Gulf Highway, One of the Longest and Most Important Highway in America and One of the Main Lines Over Which Tourists Will Traverse the Continent.

Three hundred and twenty-five delegates attended the First Annual Convention of the Texas Division of the Gulf-Plains-Canada Highway Association held here Tuesday afternoon. In point of attendance, as well as in work accomplished, the convention was one of the most successful road meetings ever held in West Texas. Selection of the route of the Puget Sound to Gulf Highway as the route of the Gulf-Plains-Canada Highway from Lubbock to Corpus Christi was the most important matter decided at the meeting. At a preliminary meeting at Amarillo last month the route in Texas was established from Texhoma to Lubbock by way of Stratford, Dumas, Amarillo, Canyon, Tulsa and Plainview. The route from Lubbock south will pass thru Tahoka, Lamesa, Big Spring, Sterling City, San Angelo, Paint Rock, Brady, Mason, San Antonio, Pleasanton, Mathis and Corpus Christi. Big delegations from the towns south of Lubbock on the Puget Sound to Gulf Highway were present to press their claims for the extension of the new international highway. A plan to route the new highway south from Lubbock thru Slaton, Post, Snyder, Sweetwater and to Temple and Galveston was frustrated by the strong delegation from the opposing route.

Big Spring went over Tahoka for the next convention of the association which will probably be held next May. J. M. Simpson of Tulsa was elected president of the organization and R. M. Fielder, also of Tulsa, was elected secretary-treasurer. Plans for marking and improving the route were made and various committees were appointed to care for the separate lines of work until the next convention.

The meeting was called to order by J. A. Rix, president of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce after which the address of welcome was given by Percy Spencer. The response was made by J. M. Simpson of Tulsa, who told in glowing terms of Lubbock's growth, resources and prospects and expressed the appreciation of the delegation for the splendid treatment they had received in Lubbock.

John Boswell, secretary of the Puget Sound to Gulf Highway and the Plainview Chamber of Commerce was called upon to give a history of the Gulf-Plains-Canada Highway Association and to state the definite purpose of the Lubbock convention. He was followed on the program by talks from Judge F. M. Burmeister of Jordantown, president of the Puget Sound to Gulf Highway, Thomas F. Owen, of San Angelo, corresponding secretary of the same highway, S. B. Hartschett of Tahoka, J. M. Lowrie of Lamesa, J. H. Johnson of Big Spring, and many others. These talks were directed chiefly in urging that the southern extension of the Gulf, Plains-Canada Highway be made over the Puget Sound to Gulf route to the coast.

There was wild and prolonged cheering from the Puget Sound to Gulf delegates when a motion that the new highway follow that route carried unanimously.

The Gulf Plains-Canada Highway extends from Canada to the Gulf Coast of Texas, entering the United States at Portal, N. D. It extends south thru the western parts of North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska and thru the eastern parts of Colorado and Oklahoma. It enters Texas at Texhoma. It follows the great central plains over practically its entire route and affords a very splendid tourist route from the north and south extremities of the central part of the nation.

The organization of the route has been by states and Texas is the last state to organize. A meeting of officers from all state organizations will be held at Cheyenne Springs, Colorado, at once to perfect the head organization of the entire route. At that time the plans for marking the route from Canada to the Coast will be made and the exact date of all state conventions for next year will be set.

The originators of the Gulf-Plains-Canada Highway point out that it affords tourists the only logical artery of travel north and south thru the central part of the nation, as there are no parallel highways on either side of the new route for a distance of less than three hundred miles. There has been a great demand for such a highway for many years and it is believed that even as early as next spring will see cars to the number of several hundred each day passing over the new route.

When a girl knows she has a pretty figure she will find a way to let you know it, too.

### SAM CATES AND HULET SMITH ESCAPED FROM LUBBOCK JAIL LAST THURSDAY NIGHT STILL AT LARGE

The Sheriff, and citizens of Lubbock were wrought up early Friday morning when it was discovered that Sam Cates and Hulet Smith, two prisoners confined in the county jail, charged with murder and forgery, respectively, had made good their escape from our county bastle. Cates had twice been convicted of murder, and once for forgery.

The culprits had been confined in the "dark cell" since their attack upon the Sheriff and his wife, and were believed to have been safely confined. Their escape was effected by unlocking the combination lock on the cell door. Using a crude wooden device which they had made from an old mop handle and two end-pieces of wood from the cots on which they had been sleeping. With this device they succeeded in throwing the combination and unscrewing a nut off the end of an iron bolt holding the lever of their cell door. The work being done through the small holes in their cell door; after getting out of their cell they yet had three more steel doors, securely locked, to pass through before reaching the window through which they escaped. They succeeded in picking the locks on these doors and going to a window, (which was not barred) of the jail, let themselves down to the ground by a rope, made from their keds.

The Sheriff did not learn of their escape till he went up to feed them, about 7 a. m. There were four other prisoners confined in the jail, but they made no outcry, neither did Cates or Smith make any attempt to liberate them. The other prisoners consisted of one white man and three Mexicans.

The white man says that he heard Cates talking at 5:00 a. m., but the Mexicans say that the two men told them good night or good bye, between eight and nine p. m.

The window from which they ascended was, very nearly directly over the head of the Sheriff's bed, and if they escaped about 5:00 a. m., it seems very probable that they would have awakened the Sheriff in making their descent to the ground and to freedom. Sheriff Holcomb and his force assisted by city officers and citizens, are doing everything possible to find a clue to their whereabouts and effect their capture.

It will be recalled by our readers that some nine or ten months ago, Carl Brown and Jas. Hunter, were confined in this same cell, and they succeeded in opening this combination lock by using a similar instrument made from an old wooden wash board. They, however, had only gotten out into the run-round when they were discovered and again placed in a cell. These boys are now serving time in Huntsville.

### Fearful Tragedy— Woman Kills Self And 3 Children

About three o'clock Wednesday morning the officers were called over the phone to come out to the home of A. R. Groves, about eleven miles northeast of Lubbock, the party calling the officers stated that Mrs. Groves had killed herself and children. The Sheriff, County Attorney and Justice of the Peace left at once for the place of the tragedy.

Upon their entering the room they found three small children lying on a pallet, made down on the floor, dead; the mother, Mrs. Groves, lying upon the bed, dead. All parties were shot in the head, children lying on a pallet with their heads to the north; mother lying on her back on the bed in the south-east corner of the room.

After a thorough investigation by the officers it was decided that the mother's mind had suddenly become unbalanced causing her to kill her three small boys, ages, two, four and six years.

The husband, mother and children, had come to the Fair here Tuesday, returning home that evening, eating supper and retiring, as usual, but later in the night the mother had taken sick and suffering great pain, so her husband went for his mother to come and assist him in quieting his wife. When they returned they found the door and windows to the room fastened so they could not enter but forcing an entrance they were greatly shocked at the sight that met their eyes.

The neighbors called the Rix Undertaking Co., to come out and prepare the bodies for interment.

The funeral service for Mrs. Lula M. Groves and children, Marvin E., Buster W. and Melvin Chester, was conducted at the Lubbock Cemetery at 4:00 o'clock by Rev. W. A. Bowen.

J. C. Holt, the ad man on the Avalanche, received a telegram Thursday evening, announcing the death of his father, at Stamford, Texas. The entire office force sympathized with Mr. Holt in this sad hour.

Cates and Smith, each left a note to the Sheriff, which read as follows:

Thursday, 25, 1921.

Dear to You All:

Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb and family, I sure do hate to do this to you for you have been such a friend to me and I hope you will not feel pained at me for what I have did, for I have acted the man about it. I hope you good luck with the other boys. I hope some day I can return the favors you have did for me. I am going to trust in God for my freedom and hope you people do the same. With love and best wishes to C. A. Holcomb and family.

Hughlett Smith.

I hope that I have good luck myself. Charlie I know you don't blame me for this, do you Charlie. I am gone. H. S.

Dear Charlie and Family, I hope you all the best of luck all the rest of your days. Don't think too hard of me for doing this. I too am very sorry for our other troubles so please forgive me. If you people don't ever catch me you can bet that I will always be a good boy. Give my best regards to my Mary.

With love, always,

Sam.

Since the above was written the white prisoner now says that Cates and Smith, poked a note to him in his cell, between eleven and twelve o'clock Thursday night, also handing him an old key that they had made out of a piece taken from their bunk hanger. The key was a duplicate of the jail door keys, only they had made the four notches on the wrong side of it, if the notches had been reversed, it is believed that the key would have unlocked the jail doors. The white prisoner says they were headed for old Mexico, (which statement we do not believe) and that he did not hear them after they gave him the note and key.

It would require an edition of the Avalanche, as large as its South Plains Fair Edition, to publish the various opinions expressed as to the means used by these two criminals in making their escape after getting out of the jail. Some say they left by air plane, some in a high-powered car, some they walked off and are in hiding near the city, etc., etc. Yet, despite the many theories advanced, there is only one fact that is indisputable, namely, they are gone, and up to the present time, no trace of their whereabouts, or the direction they went has been discovered.

The Avalanche feels that this pair will eventually be located and recaptured, and we, with all law abiding citizens hope that their recapture will only be a matter of a few days.

### POST LEGIONS BURY YOUNG SOLDIER FRIDAY

Post, Oct. 1.—The colors flew at half mast here Friday, September 30, in tribute to Jas. C. Cole, who was buried that day at Gatesville, Texas, and who was killed in action in France during the war. The Legion Post here was named in his honor, and he has a number of relatives at this place.

### LUBBOCK FAIR BOOSTER EX- CURSION VISITS LOCKNEY

Lubbock's Fair Booster Excursion visited Lockney Wednesday, and were here about twenty-five minutes. There were 101 automobiles in the excursion with approximately 500 people. You can tell without guessing that Lubbock is being put on the map by the loyalty and enthusiasm of her people. The excursion had along a splendid band. The writer knew quite a number of the boys, among whom was the leader, Monte Brown, and several Snyder band men, who are playing with the Lubbock band during the Fair.—Lockney Beacon.

### GRANVILLE JOHNSON NOW SOLE OWNER LUBBOCK DRUG

The Lubbock Drug Company which has been under the ownership of Messrs. W. D. Arnet and G. Granville Johnson, is now owned solely by Mr. Johnson.

The deal was made only recently Mr. Johnson informed us. He will continue to remain in charge of this successful drug business.

Rev. J. I. Griswold, pastor of the First Methodist Church of this city left Tuesday to attend the Annual Conference at Amarillo. Rev. Griswold has completed three very successful years in Lubbock and will likely be returned another year.

L. D. Kenser and wife left Wednesday for Oklahoma, where they will visit a few days and will then go to Hunt County to spend a few weeks. They will visit the Dallas fair before returning home about a month from now. Mr. Kenser has been a resident of Lubbock county about four years and has a dandy farm south of Lubbock on which he never fails to raise a good crop.

### OPENS ON SCHEDULE TIME WITH RECORD BREAKING ATTENDANCE

MORE THAN 10,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED FIRST DAY—TWO AND A HALF MILE PARADE BIG FEATURE OF FIRST DAY—EXHIBITS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS EXTRA GOOD—CARNIVAL ARRIVED LATE BUT HERE FOR BALANCE OF WEEK—FAIR TO RUN THROUGH FRIDAY.

The Panhandle South Plains Fair opened on schedule time Tuesday, and the first day was truly great. The streets of Lubbock were crowded and packed, but the splendid police service kept the traffic going in good shape, and no accidents of any note resulted because of the crowded conditions of the streets. People were here from every section of the plains and the people of Lubbock turned out en masse.

The fair opening was preceded by a parade that far surpassed anything of the kind ever seen on the Plains. The line of automobiles and school children, horseback, in buggies and on foot, was about two and a half mile long, and one of the most interesting parades ever staged, in as much as it included features of most every kind. Commercial, agriculture, livestock, schools, both rural and city, and many other attractive cars and vehicles engaged the attention of thousands of bystanders.

The parade was led by Fair Association officials, County and city officials, and the fire department, all headed by Lubbock's splendid band, which by the way has been no small feature of the South Plains Fair.

It is very evident that the fair at this place is truly not a Lubbock fair any more. The interest displayed by the several counties throughout this section is evidence enough to prove that it is a representative South Plains fair, for there were people here from all over the south plains and we dare say that not a county of the South Plains group, failed to be represented in Lubbock on that day and hundreds from points outside of the South Plains. They came in automobiles, on the train and every way, and so great were the interest and determination to be here on the first day that it is reported that some even walked rather than miss the opening.

Crosbyton, Ralls, Lorenzo, Idalou, Slaton, Wilson, Tahoka, O'Donnell, Lamesa, Seminole, Big Spring, Colorado, Sweetwater, Abilene, Snyder, Amarillo, Plainview, Lockney, Floydada, Hale Center, Abernathy, Littlefield, Brownfield, Seagraves and Plains all showed good representation on the first day. There were probably a half a hundred automobiles from Big Spring here and more than a hundred cars were reported here on the second day from Plainview, anyway we know there was a large representation from our sister city to the north, and every town within Lubbock county responded.

Lubbock is more than ever justified in her title as the "hub of the plains," because there were thousands of people from other towns and counties all around, here to enjoy the great fair at this place.

The first days attendance far exceeded the expectation of the most optimistic, and put the pessimist entirely out of business in the first round, and his howl has not been heard since that date. Before two o'clock of the first day more than 6,000 people were registered in at the gates, and the first days attendance passed the 10,000 mark according to reports of the officials of the fair, and each succeeding day has brought its quota of visitors and resident representatives.

The exhibits in every line has far outstripped the expectation of the officials of the fair, and many are being housed under tents, because of the inability of the halls to hold them.

The agricultural exhibits are extra good, and large, and is a real revelation to visitors from other parts of the country, and is truly representative of the South Plains. Gaines, Lamb, Dawson, Crosby, Lynn, have county exhibits, while a number of individual exhibits and community exhibits fill the agricultural building, and the hog department is simply immense. Hogs are being exhibited here from points three hundred miles away, as well as every county within the Lubbock Trade territory. A bunch of sheep are here on exhibition from San Angelo, besides a large number from nearby ranches. This is true of the cattle department, while this department is not crowded like the swine department, because of insufficient room to exhibit. The fair management has the matter in mind now of doubling the capacity of the exhibition halls for another year or maybe more than that.

There was some disappointment to many people on account of the failure of the carnival company arriving in time for the opening day, and even the second day, but they are here strong for the third day, and the fair management has prolonged the fair through Friday, and it is freely predicted that Friday will probably be the biggest day of the fair.

We are unable to give a full report of the awards of premiums in every department and a general survey is about the best obtainable at this time, but will have same for next week.

The Avalanche cannot get sufficient returns on the various departments so as to give a full report on the awards made, etc., hence we will defer a full report until our next issue, believing that it is best to publish a full account, instead of a garbled account. However we cannot refrain from mentioning the various firms who have booths in the Industrial Building. Their booths are unique, and appropriate. They not only reflect great credit upon the business firms represented, but upon the entire South Plains.

Following is a list of the firms represented:

Barrier Brothers, Dry Goods and Clothing.

Robinson Furniture Co., Latest things in House Furnishings.

A. B. Conley, Jr., Fall line of Dry Goods and Clothing, Ladies Suits, etc.

Rix Furniture Co., Furniture and Undertakers.

Lubbock Floral Co.

Leader Rest Room, Greatly enjoyed by all fair visitors.

Mrs. L. H. Burkhart, Latest Creations in Millinery.

Western Wind Mill Co., Wind Mills, Gas Engines, Builders and Shelf Hardware.

Clover Leaf Creamery Co., a Home Institution.

Darby & Whifford, Staple and Fancy Groceries.

E. L. Law, Plumber, "the man that knows his business."

L. E. Hunt, Latest things in Gents Furnishings.

Cole-Myrick Hardware and Implements.

Rotary Club Room, a place for tired women and children.

Martin & Wolcott, Grocery Co., Stressing "Vernon Flour" and Chase & Sanborn's Coffee.

Hunt Grocery Co., Demonstrating the superiority of "American Beauty" flour.

Miss Price, domestic teacher in the High School, assisted by two of the pupils, is doing the demonstration work at this booth.

Lubbock Variety Store, Full line of variety goods.

The Leader Dry Goods Co., Furnishings, Ladies Ready-to-Wear, etc.

Simpson Electric Co., Electrical Devices and Lights.

Lubbock-Tex Motor Co., exhibiting balloons, peanuts, an Overland car that was sold to R. E. Willis in 1919, said to have been run 30,000 miles.

City Drug Store, "The Rexall" exhibiting special and select lines of stationery, and druggist sundries.

Moore Bros., "Hamilton Reach" Carpet Washer, Furniture and Kitchen Utensils.

Lubbock Drug Co., Toilet Articles, Rubber Goods, etc.

Johnson Studio, Photographs, Kodak, etc.

Lubbock Avalanche, News, Book and Commercial Printing.

Lubbock Business College, Type-writers and pretty girls.

Haves Mattress Co.

The Texas Co., full line of oils, gas, etc.

Chocolate Shop, Home-made candies and chocolates.

Every one of the above booths are worthy of a column mention but our space is limited, hence this short mention.

We will publish the official awards in all departments of the Fair next week.

Snap Shots of the Fair

The fire works display this year at the fair has never been surpassed in this section of the state.

The County exhibit at the fair is simply immense. It is at least ten times as great as last year.

Not only have we had a large attendance of visitors at the fair from all over the Panhandle and South Plains, but many are here from the eastern, southern and central Texas, and New Mexico. The people from other parts of the state are the most surprised at the wonderful showing in every department.

The worth of the Lubbock Band is beyond estimate at the fair. Without the aid of this band or some other, the fair would have been dull, but the splendid music was an inspiration and made the people feel cheerful. Many people fail to realize the great value of the band and fail to give it the moral and financial support that it so justly deserves. Pep up to the band.

The Big Spring delegation had a doctor and a lawyer with them, and the Sterling City delegation had a preacher and a sheriff with them, while here Tuesday attending the most of the Gulf-Plains-Canada Highway via Lubbock meet here. These good people came prepared to

(Continued on page 8)